

Presented by: Mayor Polley and  
Assemblymember Parsons  
Introduced: 04/18/88  
Drafted by: B.J.B.

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 1296

A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN ADVISORY BALLOT PROPOSITION ON WHETHER THE ASSEMBLY SHOULD PROPOSE CHARTER AMENDMENTS ESTABLISHING A "STRONG MAYOR" FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

WHEREAS, the population and economy of the City and Borough of Juneau have changed substantially since the establishment of its unified government in 1970, and

WHEREAS, the demands placed upon the office of mayor as a result of these changes are more than can reasonably be asked of an essentially volunteer position, and

WHEREAS, the "strong mayor" form of municipal government is widely regarded as an acceptable method for dealing with complex municipal issues, and

WHEREAS, a change from a manager form of government to a "strong mayor" form of government would require the adoption of extensive amendments to the city and borough Charter, and

WHEREAS, before the Assembly considers the options available to it in proposing Charter amendments to the voters, it would be appropriate to ask the voters of the city and borough whether the Assembly should consider proposing Charter amendments accomplishing a change from the manager form of government to the "strong mayor" form of government;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

1. Submission of Proposition to Voters. A proposition as set forth in section 2 of this resolution shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the city and borough at the next regular election to be held on October 4, 1988. The city and borough clerk shall prepare the ballot proposition to be submitted to the qualified voters as provided by this resolution and shall perform all necessary steps in accordance with law to conduct the election and place this proposition before the qualified voters at said regular election.

2. Proposition. The proposition to be submitted to the voters as required by section 1 shall read substantially as follows:

PROPOSITION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ADVISORY PROPOSITION ON "STRONG MAYOR"

FORM OF MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

Explanation of Proposition

The City and Borough of Juneau currently has a manager form of municipal government. Changes in the size and complexity of the city and borough may justify adoption of a "strong mayor" form of municipal government. Under this system, a full-time mayor has more authority and more accountability in the affairs of government than does the mayor under the current Charter. For example, a "strong mayor" might have the power to veto Assembly action, hire and fire city and borough staff including the manager, the power to direct the municipal staff, might be subject to impeachment by the Assembly, might be responsible for preparation of the city and borough budget, or any combination of these or other attributes. Any such changes would require Charter amendments subject to approval by the voters.

Proposition


Do you believe the Assembly should consider proposing and submitting to the voters those Charter amendments necessary to adopt a "strong mayor" form of municipal government for the City and Borough of Juneau?

[ ] YES

[ ] NO

3. Effective Date. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

Adopted this 18th day of April, 1988.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

Resolution Serial No. 1296 was submitted as Proposition No. 3 to the qualified voters of the City and Borough of Juneau at a regular election held on October 4, 1988. Proposition No. 3 failed by a vote of 2,748 in favor and 5,197 against.